

# Topological Properties of the Minimal Spanning Tree in the Korean and American Stock Markets

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We investigate a factor that can affect the number of links of a specific stock in a network between stocks created by the minimal spanning tree (MST) method, by using individual stock data listed on the S&P500 and KOSPI. Among the common factors mentioned in the arbitrage pricing model (APM), widely acknowledged in the financial field, a representative market index is established as a possible factor. We found that the correlation distribution,  $\rho_{ij}$ , of 400 stocks taken from the S&P500 index shows a very similar with that of the Korean stock market and those deviate from the correlation distribution of time series removed a nonlinearity by the surrogate method. We also shows that the degree distribution of the MSTs for both stock markets follows a power-law distribution with the exponent  $\zeta \sim 2.1$ , while the degree distribution of the time series eliminated a nonlinearity follows an exponential distribution with the exponent,  $\delta \sim 0.77$ . Furthermore the correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ , between the degree  $k$  of individual stock,  $i$ , and the market index,  $M$ , follows a power-law distribution,  $\langle \rho_{iM}(k) \rangle \sim k^\gamma$ , with the exponent  $\gamma_{S\&P500} \approx 0.16$  and  $\gamma_{KOSPI} \approx 0.14$ , respectively. Thus, regardless of the markets, the individual stocks closely related to the common factor in the market, the market index, are likely to be located around the center of the network between stocks, while those weakly related to the market index are likely to be placed in the outside.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Recently, researchers from diverse disciplines are showing great interest in the topological properties of networks. In particular, the network observed in natural and social science shows a variety of properties different from those of random graphs [1, 2]. The economic world, known as having the most complex structure among them, evolves through the nonlinear-interaction of the diverse heterogeneous agents. The stock market is a representative example. The stock prices of individual companies are formed by a complex evolution process of diverse information generated in the market and these have strong correlations with each other by the common factors in the market [3, 4, 5]. In other words, individual stocks are connected with each other and companies with the same properties tend to be grouped into a community. To investigate these properties, Mantegna *et al.* proposed the minimal spanning tree (MST) method, which can be used to observe the grouping process of individual stocks transacted in the market, on the basis of the correlation of stocks [6]. Mantegna constructed the stock network visually using the MST method and

found that this generated network between stocks has an economically significant grouping process [6, 7].

The studies of the past several years showed that the degree distribution of the network created by the MST method follows a power-law distribution with the exponent  $\zeta \approx 2$  [8, 9]. That is, most individual companies in the stock market have a small number of links with other stocks, while a few stocks have a great number of connections. However the KOSPI200 companies of the Korean stock market, one of the emerging market, does not follow a power-law distribution and for the American stock market, S&P500, the relation between market capitalization and  $|q|$ , the influence strength (IS), has a positive correlation, while the KOSPI200 has no correlation [10]. Moreover, previous results showed that the network of individual stocks tends to gather around the companies of a homogeneous industrial group [11, 12, 13, 14]. Furthermore, the stocks forming a Markowitz efficient portfolio in the financial field are almost located at the outside of the network [14, 15]. However, until recently, studies on the possible factors important in determining the number of linkages with other stocks in the network between stocks were insufficient.

In order to investigate the topological properties in the network of the stock market, we used the MST method introduced by Mantegna *et al.* We also consider the market index in terms of a possible factor that can affect the

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number of links of a specific stock with other stocks in the network created by the MST method. We used the data of 400 individual companies listed on the S&P500 index from January 1993 to May 2005, and 468 individual companies listed on the KOSPI from January 1991 to May 2003.

We found that the correlation distribution,  $\rho_{ij}$ , of the 400 stocks in S&P500 index shows a very similar with that of the KOSPI and those deviate from the correlation distribution of time series removed a nonlinearity by the surrogate method introduced by J. Theiler *et al.* [16] for both stock markets. We also found that the degree distribution of the network, like those from previous research, follows a power-law distribution with the exponent  $\zeta_{S&P500, KOSPI} \approx 2.1$  for both the Korean and American stock markets. In order to observe the possible factor in determining the degree  $k$  on the MST network, we calculate the cross-correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ , between a individual stock and market index for both stock markets. We also found that the cross-correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$  between the market index and the companies with the degree  $k$  follows a power-law distribution,  $\langle \rho_{iM}(k) \rangle \sim k^\gamma$ , where the exponents are calculated to be  $\gamma_{S&P500} \sim 0.16$ ,  $\gamma_{KOSPI} \sim 0.14$ . In other words, individual stocks having many connections with other stocks in the network obtained by the MST method are more highly related to the market index than those having a comparatively small number of links.

In the next section, we describe the financial data used in this paper. In Section 3, we introduce the methodology. In Section 4, we present the results in this investigation. Finally, we end with the summary.

## II. DATA

We used 400 individual daily stocks data from January 1993 to May 2005 taken from individual stocks listed on the S&P500 index of the American stock market (from the Yahoo website) and 468 individual daily stocks data from January 1991 to May 2003 taken from individual stocks listed on the KOSPI of the Korean stock market (from the Korean Stock Exchange). In order to investigate the possible factors determined the number of links of an individual stock in the network, we used the S&P500 and KOSPI index with the same period as individual stocks, respectively. We used the normalized returns,  $R_t$ , by the standard deviation,  $\sigma(r_t)$ , after calculating the returns from the stock price,  $P_t$ , by the log-difference,  $r_t \equiv \ln P_t - \ln P_{t-1}$ , as in previous studies and defined as follow

$$R_t \equiv \frac{\ln P_t - \ln P_{t-1}}{\sigma(r_t)}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\sigma(r_t)$  is the standard deviation of the return.

## III. METHODOLOGY

We make the network by using stocks listed on the S&P500 and KOSPI, respectively, through the MST method proposed by Mantegna *et al.* As the MST method makes the network based on the correlation of stocks, the cross-correlation of stocks listed on the S&P 500 and KOSPI stock markets, respectively, is calculated as follows

$$\rho_{ij} = \frac{\langle R_i R_j \rangle - \langle R_i \rangle \langle R_j \rangle}{\sqrt{(\langle R_i^2 \rangle - \langle R_i \rangle^2)(\langle R_j^2 \rangle - \langle R_j \rangle^2)}}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  means the mean value of the whole period and the correlation lies within the range of  $-1 \leq \rho_{ij} \leq +1$ . If  $\rho_{ij}$  is 1, two time series have a complete correlation and if  $\rho_{ij}$  is -1, they have a complete anti-correlation. In the case where  $\rho_{ij}$  is 0, the correlation of two time series is 0. On the basis of  $\rho_{ij}$  calculated by Eq. 2, the distance between nodes is calculated as follows

$$d_{ij} = \sqrt{2(1 - \rho_{i,j})}. \quad (3)$$

In order to find out the correlation between the number of connections of a individual stock with other stocks in the network and the market index, we investigated the correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ , between the market index and individual stocks. Using the Eq. 4, we calculated the correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ , between returns of individual stocks,  $R_i$ , and the market index,  $R_M$ , and defined as follow

$$\rho_{iM} = \frac{\langle R_i R_M \rangle - \langle R_i \rangle \langle R_M \rangle}{\sqrt{(\langle R_i^2 \rangle - \langle R_i \rangle^2)(\langle R_M^2 \rangle - \langle R_M \rangle^2)}}. \quad (4)$$

## IV. RESULTS

In this section, using the MST method we investigated the network properties of 400 individual stocks listed on the S&P500 index from January 1993 to May 2005, and 468 individual stocks listed on the KOSPI from January 1991 to May 2003, respectively.

First, we analyze the distribution of the correlation matrix,  $\rho_{ij}$ , for individual stocks in the S&P500 index and KOSPI. In Fig. 1, we shows the distribution of the correlation matrix for both stock markets. The blue (square), red (circle), green (diamond), and black (triangle) indicates the S&P500, KOSPI, S&P500 (surrogate), KOSPI (surrogate) stock markets, respectively. We find that the correlation distribution,  $\rho_{ij}$  between stocks in the S&P500 index shows a very similar with that between stocks in the KOSPI and those deviate from the correlation distribution of time series created by the surrogate method. In order to estimate the topology structure of both stock markets, we employ the MST method

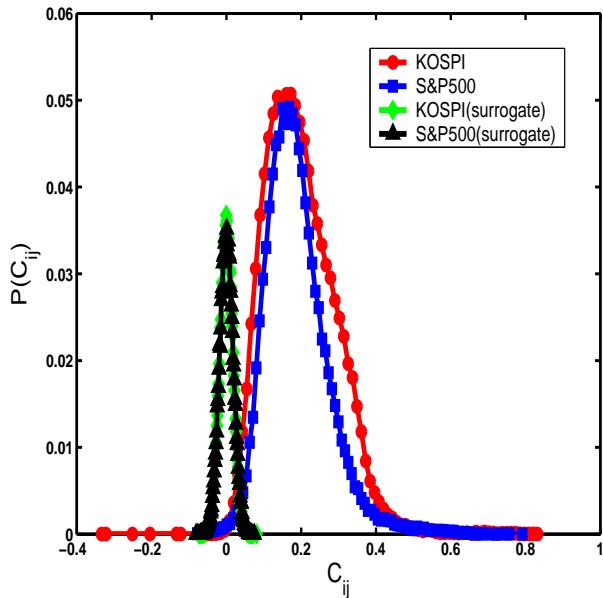


FIG. 1: The PDF of the cross-correlation  $\rho_{ij}$  between the stocks listed on for the S&P500 and KOSPI stock markets. The red (circle), blue (square), green (diamond), and black (triangle) denotes the KOSPI, S&P500, KOSPI (surrogate), and S&P500 (surrogate) stock market, respectively.

proposed by the Mantegna *et al.* Using the whole period data of the Korean and American stock markets, we present the network structure calculated by the MST method and its the degree distribution for both the stock markets. Fig. 2 shows the network structures between stocks generated by the MST method, using individual stock data lised on the American and Korean stock market, respectively and plot the degree distribution,  $P(k)$ , of the MST networks for both stock markets. In Fig. 2, (a) and (b) display the MST structure composed of daily returns of the individual companies lised on the S&P500 index and KOSPI, respectively and (c) and (d) show the degree distribution of the MST structure for both stock markets in the log-log and linear-log plot. The red (circle), blue (square), green (diamond), and black (triangle) indicates the KOSPI, S&P500, KOSPI (surrogate), S&P500 (surrogate), respectively and the notation (surrogate) denotes the corresponding surrogate data.

We find that the degree distribution for both stock markets follows a power law distribution with the exponent  $\zeta \sim 2.1$ , while the degree distribution of MST network of the time series created by the surrogate method [16] does follows an exponential distribution with  $\delta \sim 0.77$ . Thus, as the results finding in the complex network such as the internet, WWW, protein-protein interaction, and so on, there is a scale-free network property. Therefore, the hubs existence in the financial markets means that there are a dominant company which gives many influence to the other stocks. In order to observe a possible factor determination the degree of an individual stock on the MST network, we calculated the correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ ,

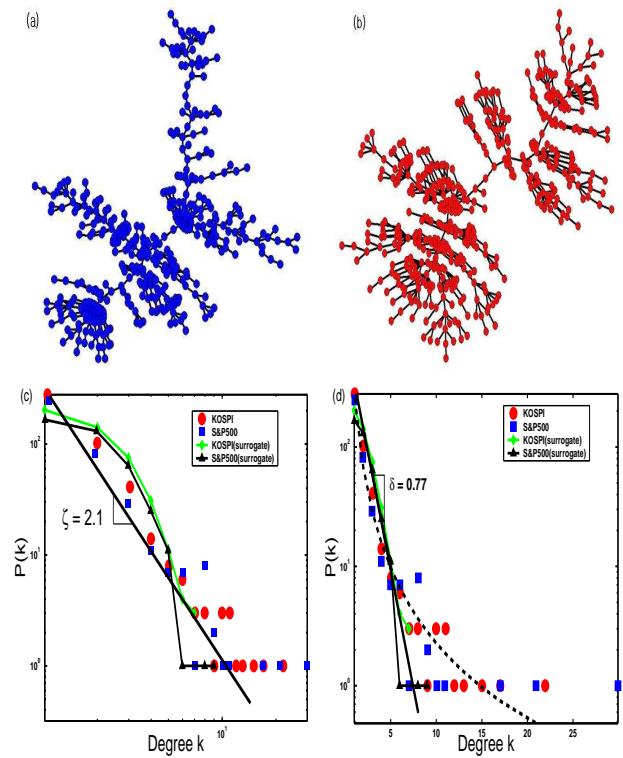


FIG. 2: (a) MST structure composed of 400 individual companies lised on the S&P500 index from 1993 to 2005, and (b) MST structure composed of the daily returns of 468 individual corporations listed on the KOSPI from 1991 to 2003. (c) shows the degree distribution of the MST structure composed of individual companies on the S&P500 index and KOSPI. The degree of both the S&P500 index and KOSPI follows a power law distribution with the exponent of  $\zeta \sim 2.1$ . The red (circle), blue (square), green (diamond), and black (triangle) denotes the KOSPI, S&P500, KOSPI (surrogate), S&P500 (surrogate), respectively. (d) shows the degree distribution of the MST structure composed of individual companies on the S&P500 index and KOSPI. The degree of both the S&P500 index and KOSPI follows an exponential distribution with the exponent of  $\delta = 0.77$ . The red (circle), blue (square), green (diamond), and black (triangle) denotes the KOSPI, S&P500, KOSPI (surrogate), S&P500 (surrogate), respectively.

between an individual stock with the degree  $k$  and the stock market index for both stock markets.

In Fig. 3, we shows the distribution of the correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ , between stocks in the S&P500 index and KOSPI, respectively. The blue (square) and red (circle) indicates the S&P500 and KOSPI.

We find that the correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ , between a stock with the degree  $k$ , the number of connected with other stocks, and the market index for both stock markets follows a power-law distribution,  $\langle \rho_{iM}(k) \rangle \sim k^\gamma$ , with the exponent  $\gamma_{S&P500} \approx 0.16$  and  $\gamma_{KOSPI} \approx 0.14$ , respectively. Thus, through these results, we found that the stocks having more links with other stocks are more highly correlated with the market index than those with relatively fewer connections. In other words, the stocks closely related to the market index have a larger number of links with other stocks and are likely to be located around the center of the network of the stocks. On the other hand, the stocks poorly related to the market index have fewer links with other stocks and tend to be placed at the out-

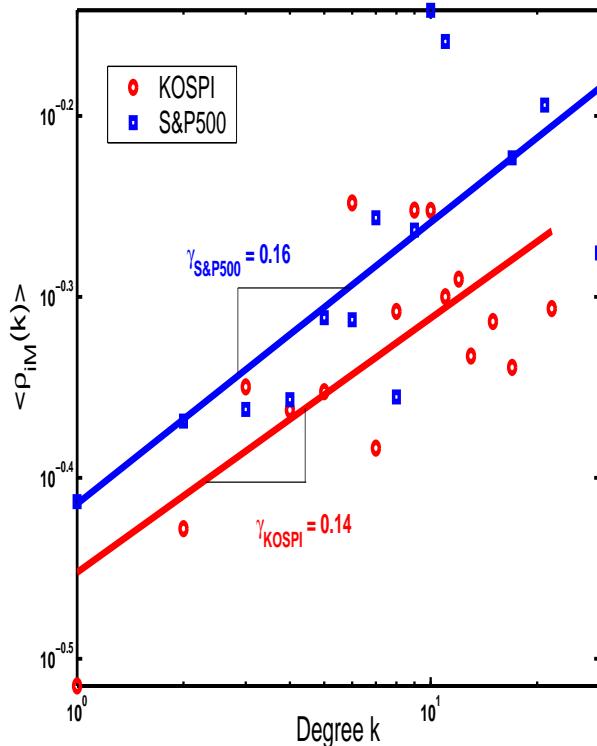


FIG. 3: Distribution of the correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ , between an individual companies and market index for both the S&P500 index and KOSPI, respectively.

side of the network of the stocks. Our results suggest that the common factor such as the market index play a important rules in terms of determing the networks in the financial markets.

## V. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, in order to examine possible factors capable of affecting the number of links that a specific stock has in relation to other stocks in the network between stocks created using the MST method, we carried out research using the market index, a representa-

tive among multiple common factors mentioned in the arbitrage pricing model (APM). We used 400 individual stocks listed on the S&P 500 index and 463 stocks listed on the KOSPI.

We found that the correlation distribution,  $\rho_{ij}$ , between stocks in the S&P500 index shows a very similar with that between stocks lised on the KOSPI and those deviate from the correlation distribution of time series removed a nonlinearity by the surrogate method. We shows that the degree distribution in the network between stocks obtained by the MST method for both stock markets follows a power-law distribution with the exponent  $\zeta_{S&P500}$ ,  $KOSPI \sim 2.1$ , while the degree distribution from the time series eliminated a nonlinearity follows an exponential distribution with the exponent,  $\delta_{S&P500}$  (surrogate),  $KOSPI$  (surrogate)  $\sim 0.77$ . In order to investigate a factor determining the degree  $k$  on the MST network, we used the market index for both stock markets. We found that in the degree distribution, the correlation,  $\rho_{iM}$ , between the degree  $k$ , the number of links, and the market index for both stock markets follows a power-law distribution,  $\langle \rho_{iM}(k) \rangle \sim k^\gamma$ , with the exponent  $\gamma_{S&P500} \approx 0.16$  and  $\gamma_{KOSPI} \approx 0.14$ , respectively. In other words, the stocks having the intimate relation with the market index have a larger number of links, while the stocks poorly related to the market index have fewer links. According to above finding results, we imply that the degree  $k$  as most important quantity to describe the network topology, has a closely relation with the common factors such as market index.

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